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Mr. John Slater
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Mr. Slater,

I want to thank you for responding to my last letter. I found that it showed no clear cut definitive answers to the questions or ideas I proposed. Since I do not expect any further response to my past letters, I decided to write this one.

The years past have shown that very creative means have been used in trying to obtain or entice donations from the property owners of Huntington Lake, but nothing has been as quite as creative as this coming year. This attitude of the Fire Department towards the cabin and condo owners has been vary upsetting to us and has raised questions about the motives of the Fire Department and its Board.

Here are some questions that have been asked:

1. Why give up \$23,160.00 of confirmed collections by others, namely H.L.A.?
2. Why is the Fire Department wanting to go to the individual property owners instead of the tracts or H.L.A..
3. Opinion to #1 and #2 above: H.L.A. and the tracts have a voice and mailings to all its members. Most of the property owners do not associate with their neighbors except if they happen to be up at Huntington Lake at the same time. They look for these mailings for the latest news. Therefore, it looks like you want to have the only opinion of what is happening with the HLVFD in their collection drive. In other words: Treat everybody like a mushroom. Tell them individually only what you want them to hear, fact or fiction. (it is mostly fact, but some fiction)
4. Why is the HLVFD "Financial Overview" handout, that was given out at the last H.L.A. meeting, full of fraudulent and misleading information? (And I use that term very strongly) To claim that you are depreciating donated equipment is bad enough but to not even use the proper basis (Cost) is unacceptable. \$12,000 for the Snowmobile when the actual cost was somewhere around \$6,000, \$170,000 for the first responder engine when the true cost was \$80,000, \$300,000 for the Fire House when in fact the Fire Dept does not even own the building. It was

also obvious that you started with \$100.00 and then developed information to try to support this amount. Are these the amounts that you have used as the basis for the equipment that is being reported to the IRS?

5. Why are you using "Depreciation" as a means to support your cause is the first place?
6. Is there any long term debt, that is being serviced? What are the amounts, for what and with whom is the debt with?
7. Is E62 and E262 fully paid for?
8. Not knowing whether a new Water Tender has been purchased or not. If one has, is it totally paid for? Our understanding is that SCE donated \$100,000.00 for this. What is the status of that money?
9. If everybody pays the extra \$100.00 that the Fire Department wants, then the Fire Department will have a slush fund of over \$50,000.00 per year. What is the purpose of these excess funds? It is a lot of money that is basically controlled by a few. I would like to think that some of these monies are justified. Do you think that this is excessive?
10. Is it really the policy of the Fire Department as quoted by one of your company personnel: "Once we get the money, we can do anything we want with it"?
11. Why hasn't the cabin and condo owners had a voice on who is on the Fire Department Board?? How can the current board, feel in anyway, that they speak for the cabin and condo owners when their only basis for being on the Board was their friendship with Fire Department Personnel and having contributed large amounts of money to the Fire Department? Does the Board truly feel that this gives them the ability to act in good faith for the cabin and condo owners?
12. Is the Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department being ran for the benefit of a few or for the Cabin and condo owners of the Huntington Lake area? If the Department is for the Cabin and condo owners then it is time to OPEN up the Departments activates and allow all of the Cabin owners to be informed and involved.
13. It has been suggested by many Cabin and Condo owners, that by lacking a open and truthful dialog from the Board, the only action left for them(us) is to form a true Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department Board. This Board elected by Cabin and Condo owners and governed by a new set of By-Laws that more truly reflect the feelings and the goals of the Cabin and Condo owners of Huntington Lake.

- It is stated (paraphrase) in California State Corporate Codes (7231.5) that Directors and Volunteers can not be held liable for any action by the Directors and Volunteers as long as it is in the interest of the Fire Department, unless their actions are deemed illegal. Two things need to be considered- what is illegal and what is unfair to the people that are furnishing you the monies to operate. Spending frivolously and not prudently is going to get the Fire Department into a lot of trouble because the cabin owners will rise up and you will end up getting no monies at all. The cabin owners just want the truth, the whole truth. So as long as excess monies keep rolling in, you, the Fire Department will have a heyday buying what ever you want, with equipment that has little chance of being used. Is this what the cabin owners of Huntington Lake want, or is this what the Board wants? I once saw a presentation for smoke alarms. They showed me burned bodies to try and justify selling me eight overpriced smoke alarms for a 1,700 square house.

Added note: Why is the emergency snowmobile and emergency boggen left out in the elements without any overall cover? The orange cover on the emergency boggen was open. I hope there are no medical bag/s inside. It's interesting that the Fire Department can buy shirts, jackets and other apparel for its winter volunteers but not spend any monies taking care of existing valuable equipment.

In conclusion:

We are trying to ascertain what is an appropriate amount to donate to the Huntington Lake Fire Department. In doing so, we would like to request a copy of the Huntington Lake Fire Department Federal Tax Returns for the last 4 years, 2006 (When filed) 2005, 2004 and 2003 as well as any other financial paperwork you may wish to provide. e.g. Income Statements, Profit and Loss, etc.. It is easy to donate monies on information based on facts and not fiction.

We are planning to send out a letter to all the property owners in the spring stating our findings and thus answering questions raised. As a courtesy to the Board and the Fire Department, I will send our letter to you first, prior to our mailing, so you may comment on any item/s. Your comments or lack of, will be included in the mailing to the cabin owners.

We want to be fair and right now there are too many unanswered questions. As I stated in one of the above paragraphs: We want the truth, the whole truth. And by this you will get the monies that are needed to run the Fire Department efficiently and openly.

Respectfully,



J. Michael Wakefield
Cabin Owner ULC#9